

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/IB2004/052264

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 G01N23/20 G01N23/201

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 G01N A61B G21K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 3 936 638 A (GIBBONS ET AL) 3 February 1976 (1976-02-03) the whole document	1-17
X	US 5 696 806 A (GRODZINS ET AL) 9 December 1997 (1997-12-09) column 1, line 27 - line 61 column 2, line 29 - line 39 column 5, line 50 - line 59; figures 1,3	1,8,11, 17
A	DE 37 12 928 A1 (PHILIPS PATENTVERWALTUNG GMBH) 3 November 1988 (1988-11-03) column 1, line 55 - line 66 column 3, line 37 - line 49 column 4, line 4 - line 20 column 5, line 33 - line 36; figures 1,3	1-17
	-/--	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

E earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

L document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

G document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

4 February 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

15/02/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Wulveryck, J-M

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/IB2004/052264

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 4 896 342 A (HARDING ET AL) 23 January 1990 (1990-01-23) column 2, line 40 - line 62; figure 1 column 5, line 23 - line 34 -----	1-17
A	US 4 578 753 A (CRAWFORD ET AL) 25 March 1986 (1986-03-25) column 4, line 25 - line 45; figure 1 -----	1,2,11, 14,17
A	US 2002/099284 A1 (HERRMANN KLAUS) 25 July 2002 (2002-07-25) paragraphs '0024!', '0033!; figure 1 -----	8,9,15, 16

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/IB2004/052264

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 3936638	A	03-02-1976	DE 2432305 A1 GB 1463054 A JP 975338 C JP 50034587 A JP 54007473 B	30-01-1975 02-02-1977 19-10-1979 02-04-1975 06-04-1979
US 5696806	A	09-12-1997	US RE37899 E1	05-11-2002
DE 3712928	A1	03-11-1988	NONE	
US 4896342	A	23-01-1990	DE 3710936 A1 EP 0285223 A2 JP 63256844 A	13-10-1988 05-10-1988 24-10-1988
US 4578753	A	25-03-1986	DE 3429155 A1 FR 2551211 A1 IL 72663 A IL 85298 A JP 1858579 C JP 5066128 B JP 60099235 A NL 8402630 A , B,	18-04-1985 01-03-1985 31-10-1988 31-10-1988 27-07-1994 21-09-1993 03-06-1985 18-03-1985
US 2002099284	A1	25-07-2002	DE 10057027 A1 JP 2002248098 A	06-06-2002 03-09-2002